

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-2 (Canceled)

3 (Currently amended): A biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine comprising ~~about 4,000~~ up to about 150,000 N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharides covalently attached in a β -1 \rightarrow 4 conformation and having a molecular weight of ~~about 800,000 daltons~~ up to about 30 million daltons.

4 (Currently amended): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of claim 3 having ~~about 4,000~~ up to about 15,000 N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharides covalently attached in a β -1 \rightarrow 4 conformation, and having a molecular weight of ~~about 800,000 daltons~~ up to about 3 million daltons.

5 (Canceled)

6 (Currently amended): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of claim ~~5~~ which 3 or 4 ~~which~~ has an elution test score of 0.

7 (Currently amended): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of claim ~~5~~ which 3 or 4 ~~which~~ has an elution test score of 1.

8 (Currently amended): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of claim ~~5~~ which 3 or 4 ~~which~~ has an elution test score of 2.

9-11 (Canceled)

12 (Currently amended): A biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine comprising ~~about 4,000~~ up to about 150,000 N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharides covalently attached in a β -1 \rightarrow 4 conformation and having a molecular weight of ~~about 800,000 daltons~~ up to about 30 million daltons in which at least one N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharide has been deacetylated.

13 (Currently amended): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of claim 12 having ~~about 4,000~~ up to about 15,000 N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharides covalently attached in a β -1 \rightarrow 4 conformation, and having a molecular weight of ~~about 800,000 daltons~~ up to about 3 million daltons in which at least one N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharide has been deacetylated.

14 (Previously presented): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of claim 12 wherein at least about 25% to about 75% of the N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharides have been deacetylated.

15 (Previously presented): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of claim 13 wherein at least about 25% to about 75% of the N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharides have been deacetylated.

16 (Previously presented): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine derivative of claim 12 wherein at least about 70% of the N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharides have been deacetylated.

17 (Previously presented): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine derivative of claim 13 wherein at least about 70% of the N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharides have been deacetylated.

18 (Canceled)

19 (Currently amended): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of ~~claim 18 which~~ any one of claims 12-17 which has an elution test score of 0.

20 (Currently amended): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of ~~claim 18 which~~ any one of claims 12-17 which has an elution test score of 1.

21 (Currently amended): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of ~~claim 18 which~~ any one of claims 12-17 which has an elution test score of 2.

22-25 (Canceled)

26 (Currently amended): A biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-glucosamine comprising ~~about 4,000~~ up to about 150,000 glucosamine monosaccharides covalently attached in a β -1 \rightarrow 4 conformation, and having a molecular weight of ~~about 640,000 daltons~~ up to about 24 million daltons.

27 (Currently amended): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-glucosamine of claim 26 having ~~about 4,000~~ up to about 15,000 glucosamine monosaccharides covalently attached in a β -1 \rightarrow 4 conformation, and having a molecular weight of ~~about 640,000 daltons~~ up to about 2.4 million daltons.

28 (Currently amended): A biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-glucosamine comprising ~~about 4,000~~ up to about 150,000 glucosamine monosaccharides covalently attached in a β -1 \rightarrow 4 conformation, wherein at least one glucosamine monosaccharide has been acetylated.

29 (Previously presented): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-glucosamine of claim 28 wherein at least about 25% to about 75% of the glucosamine monosaccharides have been acetylated.

30 (Previously presented): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-glucosamine of claim 28 wherein at least about 30% of the glucosamine monosaccharides have been acetylated.

31 (Canceled)

32 (Currently amended): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-glucosamine of ~~claim 31~~ which any one of claims 26-30 which has an elution test score of 0.

33 (Currently amended): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-glucosamine of ~~claim 31~~ which any one of claims 26-30 which has an elution test score of 1.

34 (Currently amended): The biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-glucosamine of ~~claim 31~~ which any one of claims 26-30 which has an elution test score of 2.

35-37 (Canceled)

38 (New): A biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine comprising up to about 150,000 N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharides covalently attached in a β -1 \rightarrow 4 conformation and having a molecular weight of up to about 30 million daltons.

39 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of claim 3 up to about 15,000 N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharides covalently attached in a β -1 \rightarrow 4 conformation, and having a molecular weight of up to about 3 million daltons.

40 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of claim 38 or 39 which has an elution test score of 0.

41 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of claim 38 or 39 which has an elution test score of 1.

42 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of claim 38 or 39 which has an elution test score of 2.

43 (New): A biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine comprising up to about 150,000 N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharides covalently attached in a β -1 \rightarrow 4 conformation and having a molecular weight of up to about 30 million daltons in which at least one N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharide has been deacetylated.

44 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of claim 43 having up to about 15,000 N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharides covalently attached in a β -1 \rightarrow 4 conformation, and having a molecular weight of up to about 3 million daltons in which at least one N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharide has been deacetylated.

45 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of claim 43 wherein at least about 25% to about 75% of the N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharides have been deacetylated.

46 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of claim 44 wherein at least about 25% to about 75% of the N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharides have been deacetylated.

47 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine derivative of claim 43 wherein at least about 70% of the N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharides have been deacetylated.

48 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine derivative of claim 44 wherein at least about 70% of the N-acetylglucosamine monosaccharides have been deacetylated.

49 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of any one of claims 43-48 which has an elution test score of 0.

50 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of any one of claims 43-48 which has an elution test score of 1.

51 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine of any one of claims 43-48 which has an elution test score of 2.

52 (New): A biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-glucosamine comprising up to about 150,000 glucosamine monosaccharides covalently attached in a β -1 \rightarrow 4 conformation, and having a molecular weight of up to about 24 million daltons.

53 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-glucosamine of claim 53 having up to about 15,000 glucosamine monosaccharides covalently attached in a β -1 \rightarrow 4 conformation, and having a molecular weight of up to about 2.4 million daltons.

54 (New): A biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-glucosamine comprising up to about 150,000 glucosamine monosaccharides covalently attached in a β -1 \rightarrow 4 conformation, wherein at least one glucosamine monosaccharide has been acetylated.

55 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-glucosamine of claim 55 wherein at least about 25% to about 75% of the glucosamine monosaccharides have been acetylated.

56 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-glucosamine of claim 55 wherein at least about 30% of the glucosamine monosaccharides have been acetylated.

57 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-glucosamine of any one of claims 52-56 which has an elution test score of 0.

58 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-glucosamine of any one of claims 52-56 which has an elution test score of 1.

59 (New): The biocompatible and immunoneutral poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-glucosamine of any one of claims 52-56 which has an elution test score of 2.